

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the final Office Action mailed September 21, 2005, submitted concurrently with a one month extension of time to extend the due date for response to January 21, 2006.

By this Amendment, claims 14-18 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to their underlying subject matter. Thus, claims 1-13 and 19 are currently pending and already allowed by the Examiner.

In view of this amendment, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Gacki et al. (U.S. Patent 4,197,942). Further, claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Gacki et al. (U.S. Patent 4,197,942) in view of Bernstein et al. (U.S. Patent 5,366,114). Lastly, claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Gacki et al. (U.S. Patent 4,197,942) in view of Bernstein et al. (U.S. Patent 5,366,114) and further in view of Taylor (U.S. Patent 3,581,605). These rejections have been rendered moot in view of the cancellation of claims 14-18.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Dated: January 5, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.